

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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APPROVED BY S/S-O: K. KURZE

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. EC WILL NOT RESPOND TO OIL SHORTAGE COLLECTIVELY

IN A MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY CASEY IN BRUSSELS NOVEMBER 7, EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET SAID IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WILL NOT RESPOND TO THE OIL SHORTAGE IN EUROPE AND PARTICULARLY THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO AGAINST THE NETHERLANDS AS A COMMUNITY. CHARACTERIZING THE RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 6 EC COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS AS "UNGLORIOUS," SIMONET CONCLUDED THAT EUROPE IS SCHIZOPHRENIC. WHILE NOT WISHING TO GET MIXED UP IN AMERICAN INITIATIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, EUROPE HAS REACTED NEGATIVELY TO ITS EXCLUSION FROM US-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE HOPING TO HAVE A SPECIAL UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ARABS, EUROPE IS COMPLETELY DEPENDENT UPON THE US FOR ASSURING A CONTINUING SUPPLY OF ARAB OIL. (CONFIDENTIAL) EC
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BRUSSELS 6317, 11/7.

2. EC NINE AGREE TO EARLY SUMMIT MEETING

BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE CONFIRMED TO

AMBASSADOR STRAUZ-HUPE NOVEMBER 6 THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE EC NINE HAVE AGREED TO POMPIDOU'S PROPOSAL FOR AN EARLY SUMMIT MEETING. THEY HAVE AGREED TO MEET DECEMBER 14-15 IN COPENHAGEN. VAN ELSLANDE SAID THAT THE NINE DID NOT, HOWEVER, ACCEPT FRENCH IDEAS ON THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION, PREPARATION, OR AGENDA FOR THE MEETING, AND THAT THESE MATTERS WILL BE WORKED OUT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AT THEIR MEETING NOVEMBER 20 IN COPENHAGEN. (CONFIDENTIAL) BRUSSELS 6340, 11/7.

3. SAUDIS EXPECT MUCH FROM SECRETARY'S VISIT

AMBASSADOR AKINS IN RIYADH REPORTS THAT, ON THE EVE OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT, SAUDI HOPES FOR A SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM ARE AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH. THEY ATTACH IMMENSE IMPORTANCE TO THE VISIT AND EXPECT, IF NOT MIRACLES, AT LEAST INSTANTANEOUS RESULTS. SAUDI ECONOMIC/PETROLEUM PRESSURE, HOWEVER, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL SOME PROGRESS HAS BEGUN TOWARD ACHIEVING "JUSTICE." (SECRET) RIYADH 18, 11/7 (EXDIS).

4. TAIPEI APPREHENSIVE OVER SECRETARY'S PEKING VISIT

REPUBLIC OF CHINA (ROC) FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN INFORMED AMBASSADOR MCCONAUGHY NOVEMBER 7 THAT THE ROC GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE TROUBLED, UNCERTAIN, AND APPREHENSIVE OVER THE SECRETARY'S IMPENDING PEKING VISIT AND ITS POSSIBLE AFTEREFFECTS. HE RECALLED THAT SINCE 1971 ABOUT TWENTY COUNTRIES HAVE ESTABLISHED RELATIONS WITH PEKING AND BROKEN RELATIONS WITH THE ROC. HE SAID MANY OF THESE GOVERNMENTS TOLD HIM THEY
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WERE TAKING THEIR CUE FROM THE US IN ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE PRC. SHEN EMPHASIZED THAT THE ROC COULD NOT ABSORB BLOW AFTER BLOW WITHOUT SERIOUS INTERNAL REPERCUSSIONS, BUT DID NOT REQUEST ANY SPECIFIC ACTION BE TAKEN OR AVOIDED. (SECRET) TAIPEI 6734, 11/7.

5. FOOD EMBARGO ON SAUDIS WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE

REGARDING A SENATE BILL WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT EXPORTS OF GRAIN TO COUNTRIES WHICH LIMIT OIL EXPORTS TO THE US, EMBASSY JIDDA NOTES THAT SAUDI ARABIA CURRENTLY IMPORTS OVER HALF OF ITS FOODGRAINS FROM THE US, BUT THAT THIS IS A TEMPORARY SITUATION RESULTING FROM

PRODUCTION DIFFICULTIES IN PAKISTAN AND THAILAND THIS YEAR. A FOOD EMBARGO WOULD CAUSE SAUDI ARABIA CON-

SIDERABLE INCONVENIENCE NOW, BUT IT WOULD BE IN-EFFECTIVE IN THE LONG RUN AND WOULD BE VIEWED AS VINDICTIVE BY THOSE MOST FRIENDLY TO US INTERESTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 4925, 11/7.

6. JAPANESE PETROLEUM SITUATION TIGHTENING

EMBASSY TOKYO REPORTS OFFICIAL JAPANESE ESTIMATES THAT JAPAN WILL LOSE ABOUT 15-16 PERCENT OF ITS EXPECTED CRUDE OIL SUPPLIES BY DECEMBER 1. BECAUSE OF THE ARAB OIL CUT-BACKS SOME INTERNAL ENERGY REDUCTIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN OR HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED IN JAPAN. IN ADDITION, THE FINAL DRAFTING OF GOVERNMENT CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR DEALING WITH THE OIL SHORTAGE IS NOW UNDER-WAY. (CONFIDENTIAL) TOKYO 14499 AND 14521, 11/7. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, OILS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE220421
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S-O: A. HALE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750026-1271
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejgg.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <13-Dec-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, PINT
To: JCS SECDEF
CIA
WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005